

Federal Communications Commission

DA 01-1540

Before the 2001 JUL -5 P 3:19
 Federal Communications Commission
 Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of

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Amendment of Section 73.202(b),
 Table of Allotments,
 FM Broadcast Stations.
 (Comfort, Texas)

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)
)
) MM Docket No. 01-142
) RM-10144
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NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING**Adopted: June 20, 2001****Released: June 29, 2001****Comment Date: August 20, 2001****Reply Date: September 4, 2001**

By the Chief, Allocations Branch

1. The Commission has before it for consideration a Petition for Rule Making for the community of Comfort, Texas. Charles Crawford ("Crawford") has requested the allotment of Channel 291A at Comfort, Texas, as the community's second local FM broadcast service. Crawford has stated that he will file an application for Channel 291A if the channel is allotted to Comfort.

2. We believe the proposal warrants consideration because the proposed allotment could provide additional local service to the community of Comfort, Texas. In support of the proposal, Crawford states that Comfort has a population of over 1,900 people according to the January 1, 1998 Texas State Data Center. Crawford further states that Comfort has its own school system, fire department, post office and numerous churches, and that the allotment will provide a first competing commercial FM service to the community. A staff engineering analysis indicates that Channel 291A can be allotted to Comfort, Texas, consistent with the minimum distance separation requirements of the Commission's Rules without a site restriction.¹ Since Comfort is located within 320 kilometers of the U.S.-Mexican Border, concurrence of the Mexican Government will be requested for this allotment.

3. In view of the fact that the proposed allotment could provide additional local service to

¹ The coordinates for Channel 291A at Comfort are 29-58-06 and 98-54-54.

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Comfort, the Commission believes it would serve the public interest to solicit comments on the proposal to allot Channel 291A to Comfort, Texas. Therefore, we will seek comments on the proposed amendment to the FM Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules, with respect to Comfort, Texas:

Community	Channel No.	
	Present	Proposed
Comfort, Texas	236C1	236C1, 291A

4. The Commission's authority to institute rule making proceedings, showings required, cut-off procedures, and filing requirements are contained in the attached Appendix and are incorporated by reference herein. In particular, we note that a showing of continuing interest is required by paragraph 2 of the Appendix before a channel will be allotted.

5. Interested parties may file comments on or before August 20, 2001, and reply comments on or before September 4, 2001, and are advised to read the Appendix for the proper procedures. Comments should be filed with the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D. C., 20554. Additionally, a copy of such comments should be served on the petitioner, as follows:

Charles Crawford
4553 Bordeaux Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75205

6. The Commission has determined that the relevant provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to rule making proceedings to amend the FM Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules. See Certification that Sections 603 and 604 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act Do Not Apply to Rule Making to Amend Sections 73.202(b), 73.504 and 73.606(b) of the Commission's Rules, 46 FR 11549, February 9, 1981.

7. For further information concerning this proceeding contact Kathleen Scheuerle, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180. For purposes of this restricted notice and comment rule making proceeding, members of the public are advised that no ex parte presentations are permitted from the time the Commission adopts a Notice of Proposed Rule Making until the proceeding has been decided and such decision is no longer subject to reconsideration by the commission or review by any court. An ex parte presentation is not prohibited if specifically requested by the Commission or staff for the clarification or adduction of evidence or resolution of issues in the proceeding. However, any new written information elicited from such a request or a summary of any new oral information shall be served by the person making the presentation upon other parties to the proceeding unless the Commission specifically waives this service requirement. Any comment which has not been served on the petitioner constitutes an ex parte presentation and shall not be

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considered in the proceeding. Any reply comment which has not been served on the person(s) who filed the comment, to which the reply is directed, constitutes an ex parte presentation and shall not be considered in this proceeding.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

John A. Karousos
Chief, Allocations Branch
Policy and Rules Division
Mass Media Bureau

APPENDIX

1. Pursuant to authority found in Sections 4(i), 5(c)(1), 303(g) and (r) and 307(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and Sections 0.61, 0.204(b) and 0.283 of the Commission's Rules, **IT IS PROPOSED TO AMEND** the FM Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, as set forth in the Notice of Proposed Rule Making to which this Appendix is attached.

2. Showings Required. Comments are invited on the proposal(s) discussed in the Notice of Proposed Rule Making to which this Appendix is attached. Proponent(s) will be expected to answer whatever questions are presented in initial comments. The proponent of a proposed allotment is also expected to file comments even if it only resubmits or incorporates by reference its former pleadings. It should also restate its present intention to apply for the channel if it is allotted and, if authorized, to build a station promptly. Failure to file may lead to denial of the request.

3. Cut-off Procedures. The following procedures will govern the consideration of filings in this proceeding.

(a) Counterproposals advanced in this proceeding itself will be considered if advanced in initial comments, so that parties may comment on them in reply comments. They will not be considered if advanced in reply comments. (See Section 1.420(d) of the Commission's Rules).

(b) With respect to petitions for rule making which conflict with the proposal(s) in this Notice, they will be considered as comments in the proceeding, and Public Notice to this effect will be given as long as they are filed before the date for filing initial comments herein. If they are filed later than that, they will not be considered in connection with the decision in this docket.

(c) The filing of a counterproposal may lead the Commission to allot a different channel than was requested for any of the communities involved.

4. Comments and Reply Comments; Service. Pursuant to applicable procedures set out in Sections 1.415 and 1.420 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates set forth in the Notice of Proposed Rule Making to which this Appendix is attached. All submissions by parties to this proceeding or by persons acting on behalf of such parties, must be made in written comments reply comments, or other appropriate pleadings. Comments shall be served on the petitioner by the person filing the comments. Reply comments shall be served on the person(s) who filed comments to which the reply is directed. such comments and reply comments shall be accompanied by a certificate of service. (See Section 1.420(a), (b) and (c) of the Commission's Rules.) Comments should be filed with the Secretary, Federal communications Commission, Washington, D, C. 20554.

5. Number of Copies. In accordance with the provisions of Section 1.420 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, an original and four copies of all comments, reply comments, pleadings, briefs, or other documents shall be furnished the Commission.

6. Public Inspection of Filings. All filings made in this proceeding will be available for examination by interested parties during regular business hours in the Commission's Public Reference Room at its headquarters, 445 Twelfth Street, SW, Washington, D. C 20554.